



## MAKAKILO/KAPOLEI/HONOKAI HALE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 34

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### RESOLUTION

#### RAISING CONCERNS REGARDING THE INSTALLATION OF HIGH VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINES WITHIN HO'OPILI

Whereas, The installation of overhead and above-ground high voltage transmission lines (46kv) began in the community of Ho'opili in early June 2022; and

Whereas, These high voltage lines are being installed within 20 feet of residences, and along pedestrian sidewalks, and vehicle parking; and

Whereas, Above ground high voltage transmission lines negatively impact community visual aesthetics, property values, and potentially the health and safety of nearby residences; and

Whereas, Some residents of Ho'opili assert that they were unaware that high voltage transmission lines would be above ground as they were directly told by D.R. Horton realtors that all utility lines would be underground; and

Whereas, The [Land Use Commission docket A06-771](#) (2012) Finding of Fact (FOF) 630 states on page 148: *"All utility lines will be underground to minimize visual impacts, except those that have already been installed by HECO, the BWS and other public or private utility companies"* and Condition 21 on Page 177 of LUC's Decision and Order dated July 8, 2012, which states: *"Petitioner shall develop the Petition Area in substantial compliance with the representations made to the Commission. Failure to develop the reclassified area may result in reversion of reclassified area to its former classification, or change to a more appropriate classification"*; and

Whereas, The [Final Environmental Impact Statement for Ho'opili dated July 2008](#) states [on page 184](#): *"To minimize visual impacts, all utility lines will be underground except those that have already been installed by HECO, BWS and other public or private utility companies"* and claims on page 222: *"Within Ho'opili, electrical transmission lines will be placed underground"*; and

Whereas, The Kapolei Neighborhood Transit Oriented Development (TOD) plan (2020) states on page 43: *"New development and any redevelopment provide an opportunity to underground overhead transmission lines to improve the aesthetics in the area."*; and

Whereas, On page 3 of [Bill 64 \(2020\) Testimony before the Committee on Zoning Planning and Housing of the City and County of Honolulu](#), the developer of Ho'opili testified that overhead 48kv [sic] line facilities running along the makai edge of Farrington highway would not be conducive to an active pedestrian environment and would compromise safety



along this arterial roadway. These are the same lines now being installed next to homes, sidewalks, and parking within Ho'opili; and

Whereas, PUC Decision and Order No. 38094; Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.; Docket No. 2020-0182 Pg.11 states: "Following discovery on September 2, 2021, the Consumer Advocate filed its Statement of Position recommending: . . . 2. A public hearing be conducted for the overhead line extension request; and that pg.12 states that "On September 21, 2021, HECO filed its Reply Statement of Position that it . . .2. Does not object to a public hearing being convened by the Commission, but reiterates its request that a decision and order be filed by November 30, 2021; and that the PUC was not informed that notices were not sent out to the resident of Ho'opili whose homes were within 40 feet of the proposed lines and that not one single person from the community showed up for the hearing; and

Whereas, HECO also gave a presentation at the Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board on the following night, October 27, 2021 at which Vice Chair, Dr. Kioni Dudley strongly opposed any wires above ground, and said, "I just will be dead set against this project as long as the wires are above ground," and the presenter, HECO spokesman, Nakoa Garcia, promised to work with the Board, and Chair Anthony Makana Paris asked him to "get us that information, because I do not believe that Uncle Dudley's concern is (just) his own in this matter," and Nakoa Garcia answered, "I will follow up with you, Chair Paris;" and nowhere in the presentation did Nakoa Garcia say that final approval of the project, with wires above ground, was expected only weeks later, on November 30, which would give no time to work for the board to provide an official position; and

Whereas, nowhere in the PUC Decision and Order No. 38094 does it mention that the PUC or the Consumer Advocate was made aware by HECO or any other party of the sentiments of opposition of the Neighborhood Board to above ground high voltage power lines; and

Whereas, on pg. 16 of PUC Decision and Order No. 38094; Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.; Docket No. 2020-0182 quotes HRS § 269-27.5 in stating: Whenever a public utility plans to place, construct, erect, or otherwise build a new 46 kilovolt or greater high-voltage electric transmission system above the surface of the ground through any residential area, the public utilities commission shall conduct a public hearing prior to its issuance of approval thereof. Notice of the hearing shall be given in the manner provided in section 269-16 for notice of public hearings; and because there is no mention in the Decision and Order that such a meeting was ever held by the Public Utilities Commission; and

Whereas, PUC Decision and Order No. 38094; Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.; Docket No. 2020-0182 shows no evidence that the PUC was made aware of the [Land Use Commission docket A06-771](#) (2012) Finding of Fact (FOF) 630 states on page 148: "*All utility lines will be underground to minimize visual impacts, except those that have already been installed by HECO, the BWS and other public or private utility companies*" and Condition 21 on Page 177 of LUC's Decision and Order requires substantial compliance with representations made before the LUC; and

Whereas, PUC Decision and Order No. 38094; Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.; Docket No. 2020-0182 shows no evidence that the PUC was made aware of the [Final](#)



[Environmental Impact Statement for Ho‘opili dated July 2008](#) states [on page 184](#): “To minimize visual impacts, all utility lines will be underground except those that have already been installed by HECO, BWS and other public or private utility companies” and claims on page 222: “Within Ho‘opili, electrical transmission lines will be placed underground”; and

Whereas, some residents of Ho‘opili wish that the high voltage transmission lines are placed underground as reflected in the Land Use Commission FOF, Final Environment Impact Statement, and the Kapolei Neighborhood TOD plan; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34 raises concerns over the installation of high voltage lines within Ho‘opili; and be it

*Resolved*, that the that the Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34 calls upon the relevant regulatory agencies that have jurisdiction over the installation of high voltage powerlines within Ho‘opili and ask that the matter be reviewed for compliance with all applicable requirements; and be it

*Ordered*, that the resolution be transmitted to area elected representatives for Neighborhood Board No. 34, the Land Use Commission, the Public Utilities Commission, the Consumer Advocate, and the City and County Department of Planning and Permitting.

